

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method, comprising:
2 determining at least one presence rule, wherein the presence rule comprises a
3 condition and a state;
4 determining whether the condition is met; and
5 when the condition is met, updating presence information for a mobile device with
6 the state.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the condition is based on time.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the condition is based on a location of the mobile
2 device.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a Global Positioning
2 System.

1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a cell-based radio
2 network.

1 6. The method of claim 3, wherein the location is determined using a hotspot with which
2 the mobile device communicates.

1 7. A server, comprising:
2 presence information; and
3 a controller to determine a presence rule for a mobile device, wherein the presence
4 rule comprises a condition and a corresponding state, and to update the presence
5 information with the corresponding state when the condition is met.

1 8. The server of claim 7, wherein the condition is based on a calendar.

1 9. The server of claim 7, wherein the controller is to determine the location of the mobile
2 device.

1 10. The server of claim 9, wherein the condition is based on the location.

1 11. The server of claim 7, wherein the server further uses the presence information in an
2 instant-messaging system.

1 12. A mobile device, comprising:
2 a controller to determine a location of the mobile device, to update presence
3 information based on the location, and to send the presence information to a server.

1 13. The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the controller further is to update the presence
2 information based on a condition and a corresponding state, wherein the condition
3 comprises the location.

1 14. The mobile device of claim 13, wherein the controller is further to update the presence
2 information with the corresponding state when the condition is met.

1 15. The mobile device of claim 12, wherein the presence information comprises
2 reachability information.

1 16. The mobile device of claim 15, wherein the reachability information comprises an
2 identification of an instant-messaging system to which the mobile device is connected.

1 17. The mobile device of claim 15, wherein the reachability information comprises an
2 identification of a cellular network to which the mobile device is connected.

1 18. A signal-bearing medium comprising instructions, wherein the instructions when read
2 and executed by a processor comprise:

3 determining a presence rule for a mobile device, wherein the presence rule
4 comprises a condition and a corresponding state;
5 determining when the condition is met; and
6 sending the corresponding state to a presence server when the condition is met.

1 19. The signal-bearing medium of claim 18, wherein determining the presence rule further
2 comprises querying a user of the mobile device for the presence rule.

1 20. The signal-bearing medium of claim 18, wherein determining the presence rule further
2 comprises loading the presence rule from a server.

1 21. The signal-bearing medium of claim 20, wherein the corresponding state is selected
2 from a group consisting of available, not available, busy, and do not disturb.

1 22. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a presence server, comprising:
3 presence information,
4 a location database comprising locations of a plurality of mobile devices,
5 and
6 a controller to find the locations of the plurality of mobile devices, to
7 determine a plurality of presence rules for the plurality of mobile devices, wherein
8 each of the presence rules comprises respective conditions and respective
9 corresponding states, and to update the presence information with the respective
10 corresponding states when the respective conditions are met.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the controller is further to obtain the locations
2 from the mobile devices.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the controller is further to obtain the locations
2 from hotspot-access points to which the mobile devices are connected.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the location database further comprises a mapping
2 of coordinates to locations of the plurality of mobile devices.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the presence information further comprises
2 reachability information for the mobile device.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising the plurality of mobile devices.

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